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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/046,166	01/16/2002	Brian R. Conrow	110243	2285
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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC. P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320				
EXAMINER LEE, SUSAN SHUK YIN				
ART UNIT			PAPER NUMBER	
2852				

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/046,166

Applicant(s)

CONROW ET AL.

Examiner

Susan S. Lee

Art Unit

2852

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15, 18, 21, 22 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 14, 27 and 29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 23-26, 28 and 30 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 2, 5, 7, 10-14, 16, 17, 19, 20, and 23-26 are objected to because of the following informalities:

As to claim 2, line 3, "the image recording medium" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 5, line 3, "the image recording medium" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 7, line 7, "the photoreceptor belt" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 10, line 6, "the raster output scanner" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 10, line 7, "the photoreceptor belt" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 10, line 8, "the outboard registration edge" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 11, line 5, "the outboard registration edge" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 12, lines 3-4, "the outboard edge" lacks antecedent basis. Outboard edge of what?

As to claim 13, line 3, "the angular position" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 13, line 3, "the LE target" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 13, line 4, "the pivot point" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 13, line 4, "the outboard edge" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 14, line 3, "the first pixel delay" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 14, line 4, "the paper path" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 14, line 5, "the ROS" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 16, line 2-3, "the image recording medium" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 17, line 2, there is no period at the end of the sentence.

As to claim 19, line 3, "the test pattern parameters" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 19, line 6, "the outboard registration" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 20, line 6, "the photoreceptor belt" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 23, line 6, "the raster output scanner" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 23, line 7, "the photoreceptor belt surface" lacks antecedent basis.

As to page 34 of the claims, the paragraph between claim 23 and 24 is not numbered. Is it part of claim 23 or claim 24 or is it a separate claim?

As to claim 24, line 3, "the pivot point" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 25, line 3, "the angular position" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 25, line 3, "the LE target" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 26, line 3, "the first pixel delay" lacks antecedent basis.

As to claim 26, line 5, "the raster output scanner" lacks antecedent basis.

Appropriate correction is required.

Double Patenting

Claim 30 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 28. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2852

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 27 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ikeda (6,512,585).

Ikeda discloses an image forming apparatus for forming a test pattern for detecting a position deviation value of the scan line on the photosensitive material, transferring the test pattern on paper, reading the position deviation value of the scan line from an image obtained on the paper, and adjusting the positions of the laser units. Note column 2, lines 35-45. Ikeda also discloses a microcomputer (note column 6, lines 53-58) that inherently has a memory.

Claims 1, 27, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Inada (6,452,147).

Inada discloses a deviation obtaining unit for obtaining a deviation in the main scanning direction between a detecting position on the transfer medium and a predetermined point of the toner pattern to be formed on the transfer medium. An adjusting unit adjusts, in accordance with the deviation obtained by the deviation obtaining unit, a positional relation in the main scanning direction between the detecting position and the predetermined point to reduce the deviation. Note abstract.

Art Unit: 2852

Claims 1-4, 14, 27, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by McIntyre (6,490,421).

McIntyre discloses a method and apparatus for reducing or eliminating rotational skew between images formed on opposite sides of a media sheet. A duplex test page is printed having a skewing scale. A first portion of the skewing scale is printed on one side of the test page, and a second portion of the skewing scale is printed on the other side of the duplex test page. Comparison is made between the first and second portions of the skewing scale by holding the duplex test page up to a light source. The rotational skew correction factor can then be provided to the image forming device, and a controller of the image forming device directs the print engine to alter placement of images on the first and/or second side of the media sheet based upon the rotational skew correction factor, thereby rotationally aligning images on opposing sides of a media sheet relative to one another. Rotational skew correction factors may also be provided to the image forming device to orient images formed on the opposing sides of a media sheet relative to the edges of the media sheet itself. Note column 3, line 41-column 4, line 49.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 14, 27, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Horiuchi et al. (5,600,408).

Horiuchi et al. discloses registration patterns on a transfer sheet are subjected to visual check, and a value of peripheral speed of the photoreceptor drum or a specific value corresponding to that value of peripheral speed is selected from the table of collation between forms of registration patterns and peripheral speeds of a photoreceptor drum prepared separately. Note column 10, lines 37-52.

Claims 1, 3, 14, 27 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Diehl et al. (5,374,993).

Diehl et al. discloses an image skew adjustment for a ROS system by printing a test print 140 with a plurality of lead edge and registration edge skew delineators, calculating lead edge and registration edge skew, and subtracting registration edge skew from lead edge skew to determine resultant scan line skew which represents a skewing of the photoreceptor in either the process or reverse process direction, and laterally adjusting the top outboard mount location of a printing machine frame. Note abstract, and column 6, line 46 – column 7, line 8.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-13, 28 and 30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 15-26 are allowed over the prior art of record.


Art Unit: 2852

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Thomas et al., Miller et al., Willis, Walsh et al, and Tarnowski et al. disclose art in printing test images.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan S. Lee whose telephone number is 703-308-2138. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri., 10:30-8:00, Second Monday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Art Grimley can be reached on 703-308-1373. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.


Susan S. Lee
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2852

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